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RECENT CASES.

ADMINISTRATORS—COMPLETING CONTRACT.—IN RE ALLAM'S ESTATE, 49 Atl. 252 (Penn.).—Where an administrator in his discretion completed some unfinished building contracts of the decedent, thereby creating new debts. *Held*, that the debts contracted by the decedent in his life-time took precedence over the debts contracted by the administrator.

Morrow v. Morrow, 2 Tenn. Ch. 549, which seems to be the only case in this country with a practically similar state of facts, decided that, even where the decedent had authorized the carrying on of his business, the debts contracted by him in his life-time were entitled to priority of payment over such debts as were contracted by his administrator. The present decision is in conformity with the English case of *Labouchere v. Tupper*, 11 Moore P. C. 221.

BASTARDY—EVIDENCE—CORROBORATION OF PROSECUTING WITNESS.—STATE v. MEARES, 39 S. E. Rep. 245 (S. C.).—The judge refused to charge that the testimony of the mother should be corroborated in some material particular before a verdict of guilty could be rendered. *Held*, that it was not error.

It is the law in England that a mother's testimony must be corroborated in some material particular before a man can be adjudged the putative father. But this is a statutory rule, and in the absence of such a statute, no corroboration is required. 29 *Am. v. Eng. Emc. Law*, 834. The court rules that even if the mother could be regarded as an accomplice, it would still be unnecessary to corroborate her testimony, and quotes *State v. Prater*, 26 S. C. 207, 2 S. E. 112. "It is true that the proper practice is for the presiding judge to advise the jury not to convict upon the uncorroborated testimony of an accomplice, but we know of no authority which requires that they shall be directed to acquit unless the testimony of an accomplice is corroborated."

CONSTITUTIONAL LAW—DUE PROCESS—ABSENCE OF ALLEGED LUNATIC FROM HEARING.—JETTA SIMON v. JOHN V. CRAFT, 21 Sup. Ct. 836.—In pursuance of a writ issued under the Alabama Civil Code, 1886, Section 2393, the plaintiff in error was taken into custody and remanded to await the decision of a jury as to her sanity. The statute provided that the sheriff serving the writ was to determine whether it would be consistent with the health and safety of any person so taken to have him or her present at the place of the trial. In this particular case the sheriff decided the question against the plaintiff in error, and she was not allowed at the hearing, wherein she was found to be of unsound mind. *Held*, that such a proceeding was not in violation of the 14th Amendment of the United States Constitution.

In all cases where the principle of "due process of law" is concerned, the main consideration is whether the condemned person has had sufficient notice